

**TOWN OF DAVIE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
OCTOBER 31, 2005**

The meeting was called to order at 6.15 p.m. Present at the meeting were Mayor Truex, Vice-Mayor Hubert, and Councilmembers Crowley, Paul and Starkey. Also present were Town Attorney Kiar, Assistant Town Administrator Cohen, and Assistant Town Clerk McDaniel recording the meeting.

**1. Discussion of Private Road Resolutions**

Mr. Cohen spoke of a letter allowing the Town's debris removal vendor into private communities for road clearing which staff needed authorization from Council to distribute. Councilmember Paul requested that the word "health" be added to the fourth paragraph, which would then read "...as demonstrated by these agreements, the Town's commitment to the health, safety and welfare of its residents."

Mr. Cohen explained that Exhibit A would be a list of parks that staff felt needed to be cleared for the health and safety of Town residents. Councilmember Paul spoke of private roads within regular communities that were not gated and asked whether such roads would be listed separately. Public Works/Capital Projects Director Bruce Bernard advised that the letter was for roadways not communities and communities would need to have their gates open to provide full access. Councilmember Paul stated that if any communities' gates were locked, the residents should understand that they had to make their own arrangements. Councilmember Starkey indicated that her biggest concern was that many roads were not passable for emergency vehicles even within private communities.

Councilmember Paul made a motion, seconded by Vice-Mayor Hubert, to direct Mayor Truex to sign the letter subject to corrections provided by Council. In a voice vote, all voted in favor. (Motion carried 5-0)

**2. Update on Sunrise Water & Sewer Issue**

Mr. Bernard advised that complaints had dwindled in the areas where Sunrise provided water and advised that three generators had been dedicated to service areas within the Town. Councilmember Crowley spoke of problems that Sunrise had with its lift stations. Mr. Bernard advised the Town had 56 lift stations and 5 generators and that Sunrise had 216 lift stations and 4 generators. Mayor Truex felt this serious and needed to be corrected. Councilmember Crowley spoke of his environmental concerns. Mr. Bernard felt it should be mandatory that new lift stations have generators. Councilmember Starkey advised that she and Mayor Truex had been working on this issue for a few days, while trying not to jeopardize the Town's situation.

Councilmember Starkey spoke of complaints she had received from residents and asked when the sewage spillage problem would be resolved. Mr. Bernard stated that as power came back on, this would improve. Councilmember Starkey advised that some residents had called the EPA to test the water quality. Mr. Bernard felt it would take a major overflow to really pollute the water.

**3. General Hurricane Safety Issues**

Fire Chief Don DiPetrillo spoke of relief efforts continuing at mobile home parks.

Human Resources Director Mark Alan indicated that the Town was continuing its drive-through of water and ice at Pine Island Park. He stated the Town had served 21 sites with ice, water, MRE's and tarps and added that staff had distributed information to residents on registering with FEMA registration. Mr. Alan advised of nine sites where food was being served by Red Cross and the Salvation Army. He spoke of the Army Corp of Engineers program for placement of blue tarps and advised that registration for this would begin the following day.

## **TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**

### **OCTOBER 31, 2005**

Mayor Truex asked how many residents would be registrations. Mr. Alan advised as many as could be registered. Vice-Mayor Hubert asked about tarps for mobile homes. Mr. Cohen advised that the tarps did not work on metal roofs, tile roofs or mobile homes.

Mr. Alan advised that staff was assisting FEMA in mobile home communities and had worked with Public Works to develop maps of displaced residents. Chief DiPetrillo advised that two disaster assessment teams were evaluating mobile home communities and providing basic information and advice. He stated that it was important for displaced residents to register with FEMA right away.

Vice-Mayor Hubert spoke of FEMA providing shelters for those moving out of their homes. Chief DiPetrillo advised that he had put in a special request to FP&L to bring up power grids to shelter those in mobile home communities. He anticipated that mobile home parks would be without electricity for 10-14 days.

Mayor Truex questioned whether transformers would be unavailable for weeks. Chief DiPetrillo stated this was not entirely true and advised that FP&L was prioritizing them out.

Vice-Mayor Hubert spoke of rumors in Palma Nova and the Everglades communities that residents would be kicked out for redevelopment. She asked if staff could distribute a flyer advising the Town would not kick these residents out. Councilmember Paul suggested putting a message on the Town's rumor hotline. Chief DiPetrillo advised that staff had met with owners of mobile home parks and indicated that the Town was clearly not taking any such action.

Councilmember Starkey believed it was some mobile home park owners who wanted to replace dangerous homes with new ones. She advised of positive comments she had heard from residents on staff's outstanding work. Mr. Alan commended staff members from every department for going over and above in their efforts.

Development Services Director Kutney advised that damages Town-wide were finalized at 693 unsafe structures, which included 608 mobile homes, 46 single family homes, 38 townhomes/condos and 1 commercial structure. Regarding unsafe mobile homes, Park City East had 188, Everglades Mobile Home Park had 159, Sunshine Village had 73, and Palma Nova had 61. Mr. Kutney advised that he and Building Official Bill Hitchcock had determined an approximate figure of \$102,692,500 in structural property damages.

Mayor Truex asked about damage to Town property. Mr. Kutney responded that there was not a significant amount of damage to Town property. Mr. Bernard felt damage to Town structures might range from \$60,000-\$70,000, and damage to parks might add another \$150,000 in damages. Mayor Truex asked who paid for damages to Town property. Mr. Cohen explained that the Town's insurance, assistance from FEMA and grants would be utilized. Mr. Bernard advised that claims submitted to FEMA for parks were 100% reimbursable.

Vice-Mayor Hubert questioned whether staff would give residents a break on permits if they needed to repair roofs. Mr. Kutney advised that staff had told residents to begin working on the honor system and should come in for permits later on. He added that more staff might be needed to accommodate the workload as residents began the repair process.

Councilmember Paul asked whether contractors to construction companies would be allowed to work on roofs. Mr. Hitchcock advised that these contractors could only work on shingles.

Mayor Truex was not opposed to granting waivers but wanted careful guidelines in place. Councilmember Starkey felt it would be better to set up an overall program to address this more carefully. Mr. Kutney stated that the Town needed to be careful when looking at the relevant criteria. Councilmember Starkey felt the Town should tap in to the Red Cross, United Way, and Neighbors for Neighbors to help residents. Councilmember Paul stated Council needed to establish equal criteria across the board. Mayor Truex indicated he did not want to reinvent the wheel and asked staff to research how other communities addressed this.

## **TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**

### **OCTOBER 31, 2005**

Police Chief John George advised that police officers were still patrolling mobile home communities and were still working on split shifts. Councilmember Starkey spoke of residents requesting off-duty police officers. Chief George advised that no off-duty details were being authorized at the time.

Councilmember Crowley asked about school re-openings. Chief George responded that this depended on Broward County's schedule and spoke of lingering issues with traffic control and pedestrian devices.

Mr. Bernard stated that cutting crews were working throughout the Town and debris removal work would begin on November 3rd. He advised that workers from Ashbrite would assist with 40 additional trucks. Mr. Bernard indicated that the two disposal locations would be the Wheelabrator site on 441 and the Bergeron Business Park site at 196 Avenue and Sheridan Street. He requested that Council sign the contract for Bergeron's site, as the cost was \$1 cheaper for vegetation disposal. Mr. Cohen advised that staff would bring the relevant resolution before Council at the next meeting.

Councilmember Starkey wanted residents to know to separate burnable debris. Mr. Bernard advised that staff would put that information on the Town's hotline and website. Councilmember Paul advised she had told residents to separate debris or it would not be picked up. Mr. Bernard indicated that the majority of residents were doing this.

Chief DiPetrillo felt the most important issue during the transition period was to find housing. He had not received any complaints about a lack of response and wanted to know if any residents had such concerns. Vice-Mayor Hubert asked about Griffin Gardens. Chief DiPetrillo advised staff had been there everyday.

Mayor Truex advised that he had spoken with Nate Adams with the Governor's Office regarding the resolution. He indicated that Mr. Adams had stated the Town had authority to take action under Home Rule. Town counsel Martin Kiar clarified that based on his conversation with the Governor's Office, he had learned that the Town could proceed with taking action subject to its own liability. He explained that he had never advised that the Governor would not take any action. Mr. Kiar advised of his conversation about the Town's broad Home Rule and significant civil liability. Chief DiPetrillo felt this would be counterproductive and that it was time to move on. Mayor Truex wanted to look at possibly preparing an ordinance to be ready for the next season's events.

Mayor Truex opened the meeting to the public.

Karen Stenzel-Nowicki, 5480 SW 55 Avenue, thanked Council and staff for their efforts in relief and assistance throughout the Town. She voiced her concerns about the following conditions in her area: 1) impassable streets with downed power lines, which hampered emergency services; 2) the Everglades Pipeline and debris on public easements; and 3) residents who had made improper improvements to their homes without permits, resulting in Code violations and safety hazards after storms. She spoke of homes that were recently visible in her neighborhood that were partial junkyards. Mr. Kutney asked if residents in her community would be willing to allow Code inspectors on properties. Ms. Stenzel-Nowicki felt residents would agree.

Chief DiPetrillo advised of his conversation with a representative from FP&L who had informed him that any notice on hazardous conditions had to come from Town staff and not individual residents.

Mayor Truex was not concerned about revenue but rather that things were not being built to Code.

Councilmember Starkey questioned when bags filled with human waste would be picked up from the Palms Apartments off Hiatus Road and State Road 84. Chief DiPetrillo and Mr. Bernard stated they had not heard of this issue and would check into this. Councilmember Starkey asked that this be collected immediately as this was a health issue.

Councilmember Paul advised that Broward County Commissioner Lois Wexler offered assistance to the Town.

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**OCTOBER 31, 2005**

There being no further business to discuss and no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor/Councilmember

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk